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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/010,293

11/12/2001

Daniel H. Walker

ITT-485-A

5056

7590

04/14/2006

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EXAMINER

FIGUEROA, FELIX O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/010,293	<b>Applicant(s)</b> WALKER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Felix O. Figueroa	<b>Art Unit</b> 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2006.  
 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 6, 12, 31, 32 and 38-40 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 6, 12, 31, 32 and 38-40 is/are rejected.  
 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/21/06</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

Claims 5, 12 and 38 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Lines 3-9 of claim 5 are superfluous, since those limitations are already included in claim 12.

In claim 12 line 14, it appears that --inner-- should be inserted prior to "surface" in order to maintain uniformity throughout the claims; and "with" (second occurrence) should be changed to --of--.

In claim 38 line 18, "the surface" lacks antecedent basis. It appears that it should be --the inner surface--.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

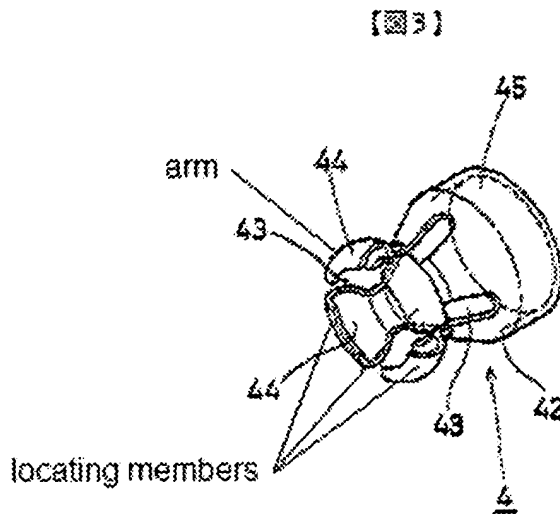
The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5, 6, 12, 31, 32 and 38-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suda (JP 2001-074180) in view of Kimura et al. (JP 2001-141170).

Regarding claims 12 and 38, Suda discloses a fluid quick connector comprising: an electrically conductive connector housing (9) configured to mate with an end-form (4) having a bore extending from one end; and an electrically conductive contact member

(18) mounted in the housing and contacting the end-form to electrically connect the end-form and the quick connector housing, the contact member including: an annular ring mounted in the quick connector housing bore in contact with the quick connector housing. Suda discloses substantially the claimed invention except for the contact member having means for passing through an open end of the end-form. Kimura teaches a contact member (4, Fig.3) having a first portion (45) and an arm (one of 44, see following figure) extending from one end of the annular ring, for passage through the open end of the bore in the end-form into contact with an inner surface of the end-form (1); and at least one locating member (others of 44, see following figure) extending angularly from the annular ring of the contact member discretely from the arm, the at least one locating member adapted to engaged with the inner surface of the end of the end-form to center the annular ring relative to the male end-form, thus providing an efficient and reliable connection with the end-form. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to a contact member with means for passing through an open end of the end-form, as taught by Kimura, to provided an efficient and reliable connection with the end-form.



Regarding claims 5 and 31, Kimura teaches the arm having a bent end and including: a beam portion extending from the annular ring of the contact member; a reverse tapered surface extending angularly from the beam portion; and a tip end extending angularly from an edge at one end of the reverse tapered surface and defining a lead-in surface engaged by a tip end of the end-form.

Regarding claims 6 and 32, Kimura discloses the reverse tapered surface extending at an obtuse included angle with respect to the beam, and the tip end extending at an obtuse included angle with the reversed tapered surface.

Regarding claims 39 and 40, Kimura teaches the at least one locating member being one of a plurality of circumferentially spaced locating members extending from the annual ring of the contact member, each discretely from the arm.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-2003. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 10:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 Ext. 33. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Felix O. Figueroa

  
THO D. TA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER